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Photos available on ECISMA's website: <a href="http://www.evergladescisma.org/roundup/results.cfm">http://www.evergladescisma.org/roundup/results.cfm</a>

## Fifth Annual Everglades Nonnative Fish Round Up

The fifth annual Everglades Nonnative Fish Round Up will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2014 in south Florida. There are three weigh-in locations: 1)Miami-Dade County - Miccosukee Arches, SW 8th St. & SW 172 Ave. 2) Broward County, University of Florida, 3205 College Ave, Davie, Fl. 33314 3) Collier-Lee County, Conservancy of Southwest Florida, 1495 Smith Preserve Way Naples, Florida 34102.

The Round Up is a one-day event open to all anglers (shore or boat) who fish in the Everglades area. The purposes of this event are to raise public awareness about the potential negative impacts of releasing nonnative fish into Florida waters, and to encourage anglers to target these nonnative species for consumption. The Round Up will also gather data on nonnative fish distribution and abundance, which can assist in their management.

Prizes will be awarded for largest fish, largest aggregate catch (weight), largest Snakehead, largest aggregate catch of Snakeheads, and will include a junior division. A "slam" prize will also be awarded to the angler that catches the greatest number of nonnative species.

Nonnative species are animals and plants living outside their native range as a result of human activity. The Everglades ecosystem is home to at least 22 nonnative freshwater fish species. All but two of these species were introduced into the environment illegally—either by people releasing unwanted pets or food fish, or by flooding of aquaculture ponds.

"As the number of nonnative fish species continues to increase, there is the potential for significant impacts to the ecosystem. Recreational anglers who catch and keep nonnative species help reduce their abundance, lessen their potential impact on native species, catch more fish, and have more fun as a result," said Tony Pernas, Co-Chair of ECISMA.

Registration information and event rules are available at <a href="http://www.evergladescisma.org/roundup/">http://www.evergladescisma.org/roundup/</a>. Participants must register online by 9:00 PM on May 15, 2014.











